

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Dems urge removal as Trump trial starts

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Senate began hearing opening arguments Wednesday in President Donald Trump's impeachment trial with proceedings now on a fast track. First up: Democratic House managers making their case that Trump abused his presidential power and should be removed from office.

After late-night deliberations over the rules almost ensured no new witnesses will be heard, the trial picked up speed. There were few signs of Republican resistance to quickly assessing, and voting, on charges related to Trump's dealings with Ukraine.

Senators rejected all attempts to bring in new witnesses — including top Trump aides — and are likely to do so again next week, shutting out any chance of new testimony.

Chief Justice John Roberts gavelled open the session as senators settled in for several long days of proceedings.

Trump, who was in Davos, Switzerland, attending a global economic forum, suggested he would be open to his advisers testifying, then quickly backtracked, saying there were “national security” concerns that would stand in the way.

“I’ll leave that to the Senate,” Trump said on the question of witnesses.

The trial marks just the third time the Senate has weighed whether an American president should be removed from office. Democrats argue Trump abused his office by asking Ukraine to investigate political rivals while withholding crucial military aid, and also obstructed Congress by refusing to turn over documents or allow officials to testify in the House probe. Republicans have defended Trump's actions and cast the process as a politically motivated effort to weaken the president in the midst of his reelection campaign.

Rep. Adam Schiff of California, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee and leader of the prosecution team, launched into opening arguments referring to Alexander Hamilton and the country's other Founding Fathers who wrote impeachment into the Constitution.

“We are here today in this hallowed chamber, undertaking this solemn action for only the third time in history because Donald J. Trump, the 45th president of the United States, has acted precisely as Hamilton and his contemporaries feared,” Schiff said.

The House prosecutors will have 24 hours over the next three days to present their case. The president's lawyers will follow with another 24 hours over three days to mount a defense. They are expected to

take only Sunday off.

After that, there will be 16 hours for senators, who must sit quietly at their desks, no speeches or cellphones, to ask written question, and another four hours for deliberations.

By the end of next week there is expected to be one last vote on whether or not they want to hear from more witnesses, and it appears increasingly likely that will be the end.

The trial opened Tuesday and wrangling over the rules stretched late into the night, with Republicans shooting down one-by-one Democratic efforts to get Trump aides including former national security adviser John Bolton, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, and acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, to testify as witnesses.

The trial began with a setback for Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell, who backed off his plans to limit each side's arguments to two days. But the GOP remained united in batting back Democratic requests for witnesses and ultimately approved a rules package that pushes off a final decision on whether or not to seek additional testimony until later in the trial.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer bemoaned the limitations, saying the impeachment trial “begins with a cloud hanging over it, a cloud of unfairness.”

## Trump minimizes severity of injuries from Iran attack

BY STEVE BEYNON  
AND COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Wednesday downplayed the injuries sustained by U.S. troops during the Iranian missile strikes on two military bases in Iraq as he was pressed by reporters about earlier claims no service members were hurt in the attacks.

“I heard they had headaches and a couple of other things. I can report it is not very serious,” Trump said at a news conference in Davos, Switzerland, arguing that potential traumatic brain injuries are less severe than amputations.

On Friday, U.S. Central Command officials said 11 U.S. troops were suffering

with head injuries from Iran's missile barrage on the two Iraqi bases where American service members are deployed. The CENTCOM announcement was more than a week after the attack on Jan 8. On Tuesday, CENTCOM officials acknowledged an additional number of troops had been transported from Iraq to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany for further medical treatment and evaluations related to the missile strikes. It was unclear Wednesday how many more service members were injured, and CENTCOM officials declined to answer questions about their conditions.

“I don't consider them very serious injuries relative to other injuries that I've seen,” Trump said, comparing them to troops losing limbs in combat. “No, I do not

consider them bad injuries.”

The newly evacuated troops were transported from Iraq “out of an abundance of caution” and would be treated on an “out-patient basis,” CENTCOM said in a statement. Most of the troops whom Pentagon officials said last week had been removed from Iraq were sent to Landstuhl, though three of them were sent to Kuwait.

Trump originally claimed the day after the attack that no Americans were harmed in the Iranian missile strikes, which came in retaliation for a U.S. drone strike in Iraq that killed Qassem Soleimani, Iran's top military general. No American deaths or injuries in the attack was cited by Trump as a primary reason not to escalate hostilities with Iran by retaliating with another U.S. military strike.

## USAF captain found dead was to be dismissed

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN

*Stars and Stripes*

An Air Force officer found dead of an apparent suicide after fleeing a court-martial was to be dismissed from the service, Air Force officials said.

Capt. Kevin Larson was convicted by a jury at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada on charges of drug use, possession and distribution, as well as assault, conduct unbecoming an officer and making a false official statement, officials said.

Larson, a drone pilot at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., left court Friday prior to being sentenced and fled to California, where the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office joined the Air Force in its search for the fugitive officer after an arrest warrant was issued.

Larson was sentenced to dismissal from the Air Force, Creech spokeswoman 1st Lt. Scarlett Trujillo said in a statement.

A charge sheet for Larson's case was not immediately available, she said.

Larson, 33, eluded capture Saturday after an attempted traffic stop in California. A day later, his body was found about 30 yards from his vehicle, which Air Force special agents had located on a secluded fire road in Redwood, Calif., the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

A single shot was heard as a drone surveyed the area where the vehicle was parked, the sheriff's office said.

"I extend my deepest sympathies to Kevin's friends and family as they come to terms with this loss," Col. Stephen Jones, commander of the 432nd Wing/432nd Air Expeditionary Wing, said in a statement Tuesday.

"His death was an unexpected tragedy. No matter what his situation or actions, he was a member of our Air Force family," Jones said.

A native of Spokane, Wash., Larson was assigned to the 867th Attack Squadron, a unit of the 432nd Wing/432nd Air Expeditionary Wing.

He began flying the MQ-1 Predator in 2013 and later became qualified on the MQ-9 Reaper in 2015, Trujillo said.

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Detachment 206, is investigating Larson's death, officials said.

## DOD makes \$35T in '19 accounting adjustments

*Bloomberg*

The Pentagon made \$35 trillion in accounting adjustments last year alone — a total that's larger than the entire U.S. economy and underscores the Defense Department's continuing difficulty in balancing its books.

The latest estimate is up from \$30.7 trillion in 2018 and \$29 trillion in 2017, the first year adjustments were tracked in a concerted way, according to Pentagon figures and a lawmaker who's pursued the accounting morass.

The figure dwarfs the \$738 billion of defense-related funding in the latest U.S. budget.

"Within that \$30 trillion is a lot of double, triple and quadruple counting of the same money as it got moved between accounts," said Todd Harrison, a Pentagon budget expert with the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

The Defense Department acknowledged that it failed its first-ever audit in 2018 and then again last year, when it reviewed \$2.7 trillion in assets and \$2.6 trillion in liabilities. While auditors found no evidence of fraud in the review of finances that Congress required, they flagged a laundry

list of problems, including accounting adjustments.

There were 546,433 adjustments in fiscal 2017 and 562,568 in 2018, according to figures provided by Rep. Jackie Speier, who asked the Government Accountability Office to investigate.

Mark Easton, the Defense Department's deputy chief financial officer, wrote the GAO that in response to its audit the department "is actively developing strategies" to reduce accounting adjustments.

Pentagon spokesman Christopher Sherwood said that "annually, DOD has hundreds of billions of dollars of financial activity, and accounting adjustments are sometimes used to record activity in our financial reporting systems due to a lack of system capabilities or interfaces."

Many of these older systems "were designed without consideration for current financial accounting standards," Sherwood said. What's most important to an auditor is whether the adjustments "are properly supported" because "properly supported adjustments ensure financial statement values are accurate. We have made significant progress in reducing the number and dollar value of unsupported adjustments by over 30% and 70%, respectively," he said.

## Pentagon gives services conditional OK to resume Saudi training in US

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon gave the Navy and other military services conditional approval to resume training of Saudi Arabian nationals in the U.S.

Operational training, such as flying and other non-classroom work, for the approximately 850 Saudis at multiple U.S. bases was suspended on Dec. 10. That was four days after a Saudi trainee shot and killed three U.S. Navy service members at Naval Air Station Pensacola in Florida.

Deputy Defense Secretary David Norquist said in a memo dated Jan. 17 and released Tuesday that non-classroom training can resume once the military services have met certain conditions, including implementing a prohibition on the possession — on or off U.S. military property — of

privately owned firearms and ammunition by international military students and their families.

The military services must also ensure that all international military students are under continuous monitoring for potentially disqualifying behavior. The continuous monitoring, which was ordered last week by Defense Secretary Mark Esper, is intended to allow U.S. officials to pick up on signs of radicalization or other problematic behavior that might not have been apparent when the student entered the training program.

The military services must also take steps to transition most international military students to credentials that limit physical access to those Defense Department facilities for which they have a bona fide requirement to access.



# Use of ecstasy for PTSD therapy to expand

By NIKKI WENTLING  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Iraq War veteran Jonathan Lubecky was deployed to Balad Air Base in 2006, where mortar attacks became part of daily life.

During one enemy strike, Lubecky was knocked unconscious, suffering a traumatic brain injury. His overall combat experience resulted in post-traumatic stress disorder.

After leaving the Army in 2009, he tried many treatments, including exposure therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy and several types of antidepressants — but nothing lessened his symptoms of PTSD. The pain became so overwhelming, Lubecky attempted suicide five times in eight years. He said when he wasn't attempting to kill himself, he was thinking about it.

In 2014, Lubecky tried something new. He volunteered for a clinical trial of MDMA, the illegal psychedelic drug commonly known as molly or ecstasy. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2017 designated MDMA as a "breakthrough

therapy" to treat PTSD and last week said it would allow more people to access the treatment.

"I already had five suicide attempts. I put a gun to my head twice and pulled the trigger," Lubecky said. "I figured I was going to die anyway, that I might as well try ecstasy. And then it worked."

Lubecky, a retired sergeant, took a dose of ecstasy, and then was guided through eight hours of intensive psychotherapy. He repeated the process two more times. The drug, which enhances feelings of empathy and euphoria while blocking the brain's ability to process fear, "broke down the barriers" that previously prevented Lubecky from opening up to therapists, he said.

During those 24 hours of therapy, he talked about all of his traumas: his combat experience, divorce and multiple suicide attempts, among other things.

After the first session, Lubecky said he had fewer suicidal thoughts. He eventually went one full day without thinking of killing himself, then two. Five years after he

completed the clinical trial, Lubecky no longer meets the qualifications for a PTSD diagnosis.

"The MDMA puts the mind, body and spirit in a place it needs to be in order to heal," he said. "It's like doing therapy while being hugged by everyone who loves you in a bathtub full of puppies licking your face. That's the best way I've been able to describe it."

The study is sponsored by the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, or MAPS, a nonprofit that formed in 1986 to fund research of the drug after MDMA was made illegal.

The group announced Friday that MDMA-assisted psychotherapy will soon be available to more people. The FDA granted expanded access for the treatment, meaning patients outside of the clinical trials will be able to receive it.

No longer experiencing PTSD symptoms, Lubecky dedicates his time to advocating for the treatment, getting more veterans involved and changing the way society talks about mental illness.

## Coast Guard officer accused of terror plot asks for leniency

*Associated Press*

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Federal prosecutors are recommending a 25-year prison sentence for a Coast Guard lieutenant accused of stockpiling guns and targeting Supreme Court justices, prominent Democrats and TV journalists for attacks inspired by racist killers.

But defense attorneys are seeking leniency for Christopher Hasson, disputing the government's claim that he is a domestic terrorist. Hasson's lawyers are urging a federal judge in Maryland to spare him a prison term and sentence him to jail time served since his arrest and three years of supervised release.

Hasson, 50, has pleaded guilty to gun and drug charges and is scheduled to be sentenced Jan. 31.

Prosecutors say Hasson is a white nationalist intent on carrying out mass killings, but they filed no terrorism-related charges against him after his

February 2019 arrest.

Hasson's lawyers provided the court with a report prepared by Stephen Hart, an expert in violence risk assessment. Hart examined the evidence cited by prosecutors and rejected their theory that Hasson intended to carry out an attack.

Investigators found 15 guns, including seven rifles, and more than 1,000 rounds of ammunition at Hasson's basement apartment in Silver Spring, Md. He researched how to make homemade bombs, studied sniper training and used his government computer to search for information about Nazis and Adolf Hitler, prosecutors said.

Hasson pleaded guilty in October to possessing unregistered and unserialized silencers, being a drug addict in possession of firearms and illegal possession of tramadol, an opioid painkiller.

Hasson, a married father of two grown children, faces a maximum of 31 years in prison.

## Alaska researcher studies effects of depleted uranium

*Associated Press*

JUNEAU, Alaska — A southeast Alaska native interested in the public health effects of radiation says she has found a connection between the Marshall Islands and southern Iraq through radioactivity.

Skagway native Shelby Surdyk presented information on the public health effects of depleted uranium rounds in Iraq after doctors reported seeing congenital birth defects in kids born in the region, Juneau Empire reported.

"Although the data suggest that there is a connection between uranium and adverse health outcomes in Iraq, the data is uncertain," Surdyk said. "We didn't find the condemning evidence that I'd hoped for, mostly because of the high risk of bias."

Surdyk became interested in radioactivity from a high school teacher who studied the same thing in the Marshall Islands and later went on to study at the

University of Alaska Fairbanks, she said.

Children in Iraq were displaying the same birth defects as children born in the Marshall Islands, which was used as a nuclear test site in the 1940s and 1950s by the U.S. government, she found.

Enriched uranium is used in nuclear reactors or nuclear weapons and uranium that is not enriched is called depleted uranium. Both types of uranium are radioactive, meaning it emits energy harmful to humans.

Uranium can become aerosolized and aerosolized uranium can also leach into water, Surdyk said.

Since completing her master's studies, Surdyk returned to Alaska and is currently organizing an April conference for the Alaska Youth Congress for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, which will host students from nuclear-affected countries, including the Marshall Islands.

# Cases of new viral illness rise in China

Associated Press

BEIJING — Chinese health authorities urged people in the city of Wuhan to avoid crowds and public gatherings after warning that a new viral illness that has infected more than 400 people and killed at least nine could spread further.

The appeal came as the World Health Organization convened a group of independent experts to advise whether the outbreak

should be declared a global emergency. Some experts said they believe the threshold had already been reached.

The number of new cases has risen sharply in China, the center of the outbreak. There were 440 confirmed cases as of midnight on Tuesday in 13 jurisdictions, said Li Bin, deputy director of the National Health Commission. Nine people have died, all in Hubei province, since the outbreak emerged in

its provincial capital of Wuhan late last month.

"There has already been human-to-human transmission and infection of medical workers," Li said at a news conference with health experts. "Evidence has shown that the disease has been transmitted through the respiratory tract, and there is the possibility of viral mutation."

The illness comes from a newly identified type of corona-

virus, a family of viruses that can cause the common cold as well as more serious illnesses.

WHO's Asia office tweeted this week that "there may now be sustained human-to-human transmission," which raises the possibility that the epidemic is spreading more easily and may no longer require an animal source to spark infections, as officials initially reported.

# Group wanted rally to start a civil war

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — A hidden camera captured members of a white supremacist group expressing hope that violence at a gun rights rally in Virginia this week could start a civil war, federal prosecutors said in a court filing Tuesday.

Former Canadian Armed Forces reservist Patrik Jordan Mathews, 27, also videotaped himself advocating for killing people, poisoning water supplies and derailing trains, a prosecutor wrote in urging a judge in Maryland to keep Mathews and two other members of The Base detained in federal custody.

But Mathews didn't know investigators were watching and listening when he and two other group members talked about attending the Richmond rally in the days leading up to Monday's event, which attracted tens of thousands of people and ended peacefully.

Last month, a closed-circuit television camera and micro-

phone installed by investigators in a Delaware home captured Mathews talking about the Virginia rally as a "boundless" opportunity.

"And the thing is you've got tons of guys who ... should be radicalized enough to know that all you gotta do is start making things go wrong and if Virginia can spiral out to (expletive) full blown civil war," he said.

Mathews and fellow group member Brian Mark Lemley Jr., 33, of Elkton, Md., discussed the planning of violence at the Richmond rally, according to prosecutors.

"I need to claim my first victim," Lemley said on Dec. 23, according to Tuesday's detention memo.

"We could essentially like be literally hunting people," Mathews said, according to prosecutors.

Lemley talked about ambushing a police officer, saying, "If there's like a PoPo cruiser parked on the street and he doesn't have backup, I can ex-

ecute him at a whim and just take his stuff," according to prosecutors.

FBI agents arrested Mathews, Lemley and William Garfield Bilbrough IV, 19, of Denton, Md., last Thursday as part of a broader investigation of The Base. Authorities in Georgia and Wisconsin also arrested four other men linked to the group.

Mathews and Lemley are charged with transporting a firearm and ammunition with intent to commit a felony. Bilbrough is charged with "transporting and harboring aliens."

Mathews, who was a combat engineer in the Canadian Army Reserve, illegally crossed the U.S. border near Minnesota in August after news reports identifying him led to his identification as a member of The Base.

Investigators believe Bilbrough and Lemley, who was a "cavalry scout" in the U.S. Army, drove from Maryland to Michigan to pick up Mathews, authorities said.

On Jan. 5, Mathews and Lemley returned to the Delaware home from a gun range in Maryland and began packing items that investigators believe they planned to use during and after the Virginia rally, court documents said.

They packed containers with food and supplies before Mathews remarked about needing to bring a gas mask, investigators said. Lemley also said he thought they'd have enough food to last between three and five months and that it "might be enough 'til the war is over," according to the filing.

The Anti-Defamation League said members of The Base and other white supremacist groups have frequently posted online messages advocating for "accelerationism," a fringe philosophy in which far-right extremists "have assigned to their desire to hasten the collapse of society as we know it."

# First known case of new virus from China in US

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The U.S. reported its first case of a new and potentially deadly virus circulating in China on Tuesday.

A Washington state resident who returned last week from

the outbreak's epicenter was hospitalized near Seattle.

The man was in good condition and wasn't considered a threat to the medical staff or the public, health officials said.

U.S. officials stressed that they believe the virus' risk to

the American public remains low.

"This is not a moment of high anxiety," Gov. Jay Inslee said.

There were no symptoms when he returned last Wednesday, but he started feeling ill on Thursday and went to a doctor

on Sunday, officials said. Lab testing on Monday confirmed that he had the virus.

"The gentleman right now is very healthy," Dr. Nancy Messonnier of U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on Tuesday.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Police: Dad strangles coyote to defend family

**NH** EXETER — A coyote attacked a pair of dogs, bit a woman and skirmished with a vehicle before being killed by a father defending his family on a walk, police said.

The same coyote is likely connected to three attacks that happened relatively close together and throughout the course of an hour, Kensington Police Chief Scott Cain said Monday.

Police say they believe the coyote attacked a vehicle on a roadway in Hampton Falls, bit a 62-year-old woman and her dogs on a porch in Kensington and then attacked a family walking on a trail in Exeter.

"The coyote came out of the woods and grabbed a child by the jacket. The dad went into protection mode and strangled the coyote," Cain said.

## Handcuffed suspect drives away in cruiser

**MD** HYATTSVILLE — A man being arrested for domestic assault managed to slip his handcuffs to the front of his body, hop into the driver's seat of a Maryland police officer's cruiser and drive away, Prince George's County police said.

The suspect, Abdul Hakim, 43, drove a few miles in the cruiser, struck several cars and eventually crashed in a park before trying to escape on foot, the police department said in a statement.

He was being transported to the Department of Corrections in Upper Marlboro from the Hyattsville location when he complained his handcuffs were too tight and had them adjusted.

## Cops: Waze app directs drivers into wilderness

**NJ** JACKSON — An ad in the Waze navigation app is misdirecting motorists headed to Atlantic City's Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa into the wilderness of New Jersey's Pinelands, police said.

Jackson Township police posted on Facebook that officers in recent weeks have had to help motorists who followed the directions into the Colliers Mills Wildlife Management Area, where they became stuck on unpaved roads.

Waze was working to fix the problem, police said.

## 76 vehicles broken into at parking garage

**GA** ATLANTA — Seventy-six cars were broken into at an apartment complex parking garage, according to Atlanta police.

Residents at The Edge apartments came out to the garage to find broken glass from smashed windows, news outlets reported. Some said security gates at the garage hadn't been working in recent days.

The apartment complex just came under new management, news outlets reported. The Connor Group said in a statement that it has plans to improve security at the complex.

## Lawmaker: Don't rename Chicken Dinner Road

**ID** BOISE — A lawmaker said Monday that Chicken Dinner Road in southwestern Idaho is a historic name and is opposed to an animal protection group's request to rename it.

Republican Rep. Scott Syme introduced a concurrent resolution urging fellow lawmakers

to support the existing name.

The advocacy group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in July asked Caldwell officials to change the name to what it said is the kinder and simpler Chicken Road.

Syme said the original name stems from a 1930s resident famous for her chicken dinners.

## OnStar system brings police pursuit to end

**VT** LONDONDERRY — A vehicle's OnStar system was used to end a police pursuit by disabling the stolen vehicle, forcing the operator to flee on foot before being arrested, police said.

The episode unfolded in Londonderry where Jason Moul, 38, of Athens, allegedly broke into a home and stole some clothes — and a car parked in the driveway, state police said. State police called on Brattleboro police to assist but the man sped away.

The stolen car was equipped with OnStar, a security system used to shut down the vehicle, leaving the driver stranded.

## Bill would raise age to get out of jury duty to 75

**SC** COLUMBIA — A state senator wants to raise the age someone can get out of jury duty in South Carolina from 65 to 75.

Senate Majority Leader Shane Massey is sponsoring the bill because people are living longer and healthier lives.

"Jurors who are a little bit older but have a lot of life experience are very good jurors. Sixty-five seems too young for an automatic exemption, and I think we need those people to serve a little while longer," Massey told The Post and Courier of Charleston.

Massey filed the bill in December before the 2020 session

began this month. It has not received a hearing yet.

## Home of women's rights advocate to be restored

**NY** BATTENVILLE — New York state is planning to do restoration work on the early childhood home of women's rights advocate Susan B. Anthony.

The house that Anthony's father built in 1833 in the Washington County hamlet of Battenville is water-damaged and in rough shape. The state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation bought the foreclosed property in 2006 but has done little to preserve it.

The Albany Times-Union reports the agency is now planning to invest \$700,000 this year on the Greek Revival style house where Anthony lived from age 6 to 19 when her father managed a nearby cotton mill.

## State fair to add metal detectors at gates

**MN** BLOOMINGTON — The Minnesota State Fair's governing board decided to add metal detectors at all 11 of its gates beginning this year.

General manager Jerry Hammer said the process will be similar to what people experience at other big venues, such as the Xcel Energy Center and US Bank Stadium.

No incidents involving weapons have been reported inside the fairgrounds recently, according to Minnesota Public Radio News. But three people were shot outside the main gate during an altercation shortly after the fair's closure for the year in September.

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STARS AND STRIPES®

# Jeter, Walker picked for baseball HOF

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Derek Jeter came within one vote of being a unanimous pick for the Hall of Fame while Larry Walker also earned baseball's highest honor on Tuesday.

The longtime New York Yankees captain appeared on 396 of 397 ballots cast by the Baseball Writers' Association of America, falling just shy of the standard set when longtime Yankees teammate Mariano Rivera became the first unanimous selection last year. Jeter's 99.7% moved above Ken Griffey Jr. (99.3%) for the second-highest.

"I was speechless when I got the call," Jeter said. "Quite frankly, I was pretty nervous, and when I got it I really didn't know what to say."

It was not immediately known which voter didn't choose Jeter, who was listed on all 219 ballots made public before the announcement. The BBWAA will release additional ballots on Feb. 4 of writers who chose a public listing.

"I don't like to jinx anything," Jeter said. "No one assumes they're going to go to the Hall of Fame."

Walker appeared on 304 ballots, six above the 75% needed, up from 54.6% last year. He was making his 10th and final appearance on the BBWAA ballot and tweeted earlier in the day "I believe I'm going to come up a little short today."

Pitcher Curt Schilling was third with 278 votes (70%) in his eighth ballot appearance, an increase from 60.9% but still 20 votes shy. The steroids-tainted pair of Roger Clemens (61%) and Barry Bonds (60.7%) both showed slight increases. Bonds rose from 59.1% last year and Clemens from 59.5%.

Jeter and Walker will be inducted on July 26 at the Hall in Cooperstown along with catcher Ted Simmons and former players' association head Marvin Miller, who were voted in last month by the Hall's Modern Era Committee.

A five-time World Series champion, Jeter became a face of baseball as he starred in the

nation's largest media market from 1995-2014. He was the AL Rookie of the Year in 1996 as the Yankees won the World Series for the first time since 1978, then led New York to three straight titles from 1998-2000, the only team to accomplish the feat since the 1972-74 Oakland Athletics. A rebuilt Yankees added their 27th title in 2009.

Jeter defined himself by moments more than numbers: his unexpected backhand flip from foul territory to throw out Oakland's Jeremy Giambi in the 2001 AL Division Series; his Mr. November home run in the 10th inning that won Game 4 of the 2001 World Series; his face-first leap into the stands after catching a 12th-inning popup by Boston's Trot Nixon in 2004; a home run into the left-field bleachers for his 3,000th hit as part of a career-best 5-for-5 game in 2011; a ninth-inning walkoff single in his final home game in 2014; a single in his last at-bat three days later that lifted his career average to .310.

Drafted sixth overall in 1992

after he was spotted by Yankees scout Dick Grouch as a high school junior a year earlier, Jeter was bypassed by Houston (Phil Nevin), Cleveland (Paul Shuey), Montreal (B.J. Wallace), Baltimore (Jeffrey Hammonds) and Cincinnati (Chad Mottola). He debuted for the Yankees on May 29, 1995, and was installed at shortstop the following spring training by new manager Joe Torre.

Walker hit .313 with .383 homers, 1,311 RBIs and 230 stolen bases for Montreal (1989-94), Colorado (1995-2004) and St. Louis (2004-05), a five-time All-Star and seven-time Gold Glove winner. He led the major leagues in batting average in 1998, 1999 and 2001.

Evaluating his offensive performance gave some baseball writers difficulty because he spent 9½ seasons hitting at home in the thin air of Denver's Coors Field. Walker batted .381 with a 1.172 OPS and 154 home runs in 597 games at Coors and .282 with 229 homers and an .873 OPS in 1,391 games elsewhere.

## Gauff's win sets up another meeting with Osaka

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Plenty was going badly for Coco Gauff in the second round of the Australian Open.

The double-faults kept coming Wednesday, nine in all. The deficits, too: First, she dropped the opening set against 74th-ranked Sorana Cirstea. Then, after forcing a third, Gauff fell behind by a break, ceding 14 of 16 points with a series of mistakes. Later, after getting even at 3-all, Gauff was a mere two points from a loss.

None of that mattered. As she keeps showing, over and over, Gauff is not a typical 15-year-old. Not a typical tennis player, either. And by getting past Cirstea 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 in a little more than two hours thanks to a more aggressive approach in the late going, she now has

set up yet another Grand Slam showdown against Naomi Osaka.

"I kind of felt the momentum changing," Gauff said about turning things around against Cirstea. "I knew I had to keep pressing."

Less than five months after their memorable meeting at the U.S. Open — Osaka won that one in straight sets, then consoled a crying Gauff on court and encouraged her to address the spectators — the two will face each other again. Like that time, Osaka is the major's reigning champion and Gauff is making her debut at the tournament.

"I think I'll be less nervous this time," said Gauff, who eliminated seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams in the first round Monday. "I

think I'm more confident this time around."

Other winners on Day 3 included Serena Williams — 6-2, 6-3 against Tamara Zidansek in a match that finished with the Rod Laver Arena retractable roof closed because of rain — No. 1 Ash Barty, 2018 Australian Open champion Caroline Wozniacki and two-time major champion Petra Kvitová, the runner-up to Osaka in Australia a year ago.

Wozniacki continued her farewell tournament by overcoming a 5-1 first-set deficit and beating Dayana Yastremska 7-5, 7-5 on her sixth match point.

Wozniacki had three match points in the 10th game of the second set but Yastremska held in a game after she'd taken a medical timeout to treat her left leg.

Wozniacki eventually clinched it two games later with a service break, and wiped tears from her eyes.

Defending men's champion Novak Djokovic required all of 95 minutes to breeze past Japanese wild-card entry Tatsuma Ito 6-1, 6-4, 6-2, while Roger Federer had a similarly easy time, beating 41st-ranked Filip Krajinovic of Serbia 6-1, 6-4, 6-1.

While Federer had the usual Grand Slam day off between matches, Krajinovic's first-round contest was postponed by showers and so he didn't have the proper rest after a five-set win Tuesday.

"I do feel a little bit sorry," said Federer, who now meets Australia's John Millman, who surprised him in the fourth round of the 2018 U.S. Open.



# Leonard, Clippers win fourth in a row

Associated Press

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks brought back one big man but lost another Tuesday night, and in the end, they couldn't rein in the reigning Finals MVP.

Kawhi Leonard scored 36 points, Landry Shamet hit two clutch three-pointers late and the Los Angeles Clippers beat the Mavericks 110-107 Tuesday night for their fourth straight win.

Dallas ended a four-game winning streak, and more importantly, lost a key piece in center Dwight Powell just as they welcomed back Kristaps Porzingis.

Powell went down to a non-contact, right Achilles tendon injury in the first quarter, and though he will have an MRI on

Wednesday, the team is fearing a worst-case scenario.

"Guys like him define the culture we want here," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "It doesn't get much tougher than this, if it ends up being what we fear it might."

Luka Doncic had 36 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists for Dallas. He scored 24 points in the second half to help rally the Mavericks after they trailed by double digits from late in the second quarter through most of the third.

Shamet helped the Clippers seize the game late in the fourth quarter. His three from the left wing gave Los Angeles a 100-98 lead with 2:48 to play. Montrezl Harrell added two free throws, then Shamet sank another three from straight-on to put the Clippers up by seven.

He finished with 18 points.

"We just kind of found a way to win," Shamet said. "We'd love to keep that lead the whole game, but that's not how it's going to be. It's a long season. We got to find different ways how to win like we did tonight."

Leonard added 11 in the fourth quarter, including his only three of the game with 1:15 left, which put the Clippers up 108-100.

But Dallas rallied, as Doncic hit a three and Maxi Kleber a dunk. After a Clippers turnover, Tim Hardaway Jr.'s potential tying three spun around and out. JaMychal Green missed two free throws for LA, but then Doncic missed two — the second intentionally — and Leonard sealed it with two free throws.

## Powell's injury

Powell went down when he started to drive toward the basket but his right leg gave out. He fell to the ground and immediately slapped the floor in pain. He was helped to the locker room putting no weight on his right leg.

Powell's teammate J.J. Barea — who tore his right Achilles tendon last season — was distraught as Powell was taken off the court.

Powell was averaging nearly 10 points a game in 39 games prior to the injury. With Porzingis out, Powell averaged 13 points in 10 games on 71% shooting.

With Powell out, former Clipper Boban Marjanovic had 12 points and seven rebounds.

# Shiffrin fights fatigue in quest for fourth overall title

Associated Press

Mikaela Shiffrin has yet to win a race in 2020 and actually recently recorded a rare "did not finish" in an event.

The two-time Olympic gold medalist knows what some might be thinking: What is going on?

Her response: Nothing that a little rest wouldn't fix. Only, there's no time.

The American ski racer's quest for a fourth straight overall World Cup title seems tighter than usual at the midseason point. Shiffrin currently leads rival Petra Vlhova of Slovakia by 249 points, which is sizable but could be eclipsed in as little as a three-race span.

On Saturday, she claimed her fourth third place of the season in a giant slalom at Sestriere, Italy, finishing 0.01 behind Vlhova and co-winner Federica Brignone of Italy.

"I've also been on the good side of the hundredths many times," Shiffrin said. "It happens sometimes like that, too."

On Sunday, in the debut of parallel giant slalom on the

women's World Cup circuit, she and Vlhova were eliminated in the second round in a race won by France's Clara Drez.

Shiffrin finds it amusing that something may be considered "off" with her skiing. She's been on the podium in 11 of her 16 races this season — and four times as the winner.

"People are like, 'Oh, no, what's wrong?'" Shiffrin said last week. "I'm like, 'Is this what you consider an off year for me?' It's kind of hilarious, actually. It's really funny to think that this would be what most people would consider a bad season or poor results. I've been on most podiums and won multiple races. It's sort of like, 'OK, I'll take that.'"

Shiffrin was dominating in 2018-19 when she won 17 races and beat Vlhova by 849 points for the overall title.

"People said everything looked so easy," said Shiffrin, who's the rare all-discipline racer. "It's not easy."

Storied seasons prove difficult to duplicate.

"To me, it looks like Petra's gaining more and more con-

fidence with her skiing," said Shiffrin, who with 64 career World Cup wins trails only Marcel Hirscher (67), Lindsey Vonn (82) and Swedish great Ingemar Stenmark (86). "She's always been an incredible and very disciplined skier. But she's really finding the perfect rhythm with that skiing style."

Vlhova has won the last two slalom races — Shiffrin's signature event — with Shiffrin taking second in Zagreb, Croatia, and then third in Flachau, Austria, on Jan. 14.

Sandwiched in between, Shiffrin turned in a "did not finish," when she slid out on her left hip during a sharp turn in her first run of an Alpine combined.

"When I go through something like these last couple of races, that makes it a little bit more obvious just how difficult it is to be on top and stay on top," Shiffrin said. "Even last season, I was telling everybody, 'I don't expect this. This is unbelievable.' I'm constantly going back to work every single race, because I don't expect this."

She and her team try to maintain a low profile in training, but

there's only so much privacy on the slopes. One of her concerns is someone showing up with no athlete training on the hill that day simply to film. And while she didn't mention any names, some came away with the impression she was directing it toward Vlhova's team.

"I have so much respect for all my competitors. I have so much respect for the work they put into their own skiing to get to the top level," said Shiffrin, who turns 25 on March 13. "I do sometimes wish that we could find a little bit of privacy in our training environment. But that's not how skiing works."

"It's just wishful thinking."

The women's World Cup tour rolls on to Bansko, Bulgaria, this weekend for a downhill and super G. The next technical events are scheduled for Maribor, Slovenia, in mid-February.

She's weighing the rewards of rest against racing.

"If I could get an actual day of rest that doesn't include driving six hours or having a strength session on top of in-season maintenance ... Just like a little bit of a reset."

## College basketball roundup

# Wildcats, Jayhawks wind up in brawl

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Third-ranked Kansas and Kansas State ended their bitter showdown Tuesday night with a wild melee in the disabled seating behind the Wildcats' basket that included punches, shoving and at least one player threatening to swing a stool.

The Jayhawks were dribbling out the time on their 81-60 victory when Silvio De Sousa was stripped by DaJuan Gordon near midcourt. Gordon tried to go for a layup and De Sousa recovered to block his shot and send the freshman sprawling, then stood over the freshman and barked at him — triggering both benches to empty into what amounted to a rugby scrum.

At one point, De Sousa picked up a stool and held it over his head before Kansas assistant Jerrance Howard grabbed it from him from behind. The Jayhawks' Marcus Garrett and David McCormick were also in the thick of the scrum along with the Wildcats' James Love

and David Sloan, who was the first player to come to Gordon's defense.

It took both coaching staffs, the officials and Allen Fieldhouse security to separate the teams.

"Without knowing exactly everything that went down, it was obvious to me that we played a role in what transpired and there will be penalties for that," said Jayhawks coach Bill Self, who was already shaking hands with Kansas State counterpart Bruce Weber when the chaos erupted. "I need to see the film to comment or have any definitive thoughts on exactly why or how it got started, because to be honest with you I don't have any idea about that."

Five players from each team were summoned back from the locker rooms by officials and one-tenth of a second was put on the clock. Kansas State shot technical free throws to booing from a few thousand fans, and the one make necessitated a change to the final box score.

"It should have been avoided," Weber said. "It's my guys,

it's my fault. They came here wanting to have a game, compete, and we didn't compete the way we needed to, and probably a little frustration, especially the young guys."

**No. 4 San Diego State 72, Wyoming 55:** With transfers Malachi Flynn and Yanni Wetzell once again leading the way, the Aztecs improved to 20-0 with a 72-55 victory over the Cowboys, matching Kawhi Leonard's 2010-11 team for the best start in school history.

San Diego State (20-0, 9-0 Mountain West) remained the nation's only unbeaten team. It equaled the 20-0 start by the 2010-11 team, which reached the Sweet 16 for the first time in school history before finishing 34-3.

**No. 8 Duke 89, Miami 59:** Freshman Matthew Hurt scored 15 of his 22 points in a dominating first half to help the host Blue Devils beat the Hurricanes.

**No. 9 Villanova 76, No. 13 Butler 61:** Saddiq Bey hit four three-pointers and scored 14 points and Jermaine Samuels

had 20 points to lead the host Wildcats past the Bulldogs.

**No. 15 Kentucky 89, Georgia 79:** Ashton Hagans scored 14 of his 23 points in the second half and the host Wildcats used a 14-4 run to pull away from the Bulldogs.

**No. 17 Maryland 77, Northwestern 66:** Jalen Smith scored a career-high 25 points and the Terrapins rallied to beat the host Wildcats.

**TCU 65, No. 18 Texas Tech 54:** Desmond Bane scored 27 points, Kevin Samuel had 11 points and 11 rebounds and the Horned Frogs returned home after a miserable week to upset the Red Raiders.

**No. 21 Illinois 79, Purdue 62:** Kofi Cockburn finished with 22 points and 15 rebounds, Trent Frazier added 21 points and the visiting Illini pulled away in the second half to beat the Boilermakers.

**Utah State 72, Air Force 47:** Justin Bean scored 16 points with 13 rebounds and Sam Merrill scored 15 as the host Aggies defeated the Falcons.

## NHL roundup

# Williams scores twice as Hurricanes shoot down Jets

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Justin Williams couldn't have scripted a better return to the NHL.

Williams scored two goals in his second game since signing to return for his 19th season, helping the Carolina Hurricanes win 4-1 over the Winnipeg Jets on Tuesday night.

In his first game of the season two days earlier, Williams scored the winning goal in a shootout to lift the Hurricanes to a victory over the New York Islanders. Williams had taken an extended offseason and signed with the club Jan. 8.

"I'm feeling comfortable," the 38-year-old Williams said.

"I'm feeling better than I did last game. And I hope to feel better the next game than I feel tonight."

Teuvo Teravainen had a goal and two assists, and Martin Necas also scored for Carolina, which reached the All-Star break with two straight wins after a three-game skid. Petr Mrazek stopped 16 shots for the team.

Patrik Laine scored for the Jets, who have lost three in a row and five of six. Connor Hellebuyck made 25 saves for Winnipeg.

Williams helped the Hurricanes break a streak of 18 consecutive scoreless power plays

when he deflected Teravainen's pass past Hellebuyck 5:30 into the game to increase Carolina's lead to 2-0.

In the third period, Williams hustled to the net for a cross-ice feed from Andrei Svechnikov and the final goal of the game. Williams said he was simply the beneficiary of two great passes and fortunate to have his stick on the ice for both.

But Hurricanes coach Rod Brind'Amour said Williams' intellect and positioning played a role in his success.

The Jets controlled play for much of the second period, but Mrazek held strong.

**Panthers 4, Blackhawks 3:**

Florida got Joel Quenneville a win in his return to Chicago, using a hat trick by Frank Vatrano for its sixth consecutive victory.

**Bruins 3, Golden Knights 2:** David Krejci scored with 7:42 left to rally host Boston past Vegas.

**Islanders 4, Rangers 2:** Josh Bailey had a goal and two assists, Thomas Greiss stopped 40 shots, and the visiting Islanders held on to beat the rival Rangers.

**Flyers 3, Penguins 0:** Brian Elliott made 19 saves, Jakub Voracek and James van Riemsdyk scored, and host Philadelphia beat Pittsburgh.